

**Elwell Street 1936 – 39**  
**Pat Wills (nee Fellowes) Memories**  
**Collated by her daughter Christine Turner**

**A list of the house names remembered**

Number	Name
3	Smedmore
7	Weylands
?	Batch Cottage
20	Orange Villa
22	Dorset Cottage
23	The Retreat
25	Croft Cottage
34	Times Stores
44	Elwell Cottage
50	Bay Tree
52	Sunny South
54	Rose Cottage
58	Myrtle Cottage
	Lilac Cottage Market Garden
66	The Nook
68	Beaufoy
70	Meadow View
72	Ryme
76	Sunnyside
82	Clematis Cottage
84	Honeysuckle Cottage
86	Meadow side – was Christopher's Strawberry garden

## The people Pat remembered living in Elwell Street between 1936 – 39

House Number	Who lived there
1	Mr and Mrs Townsend and 2 daughters
2	Mt Squibb At the side of the house was a small area where the bier (funeral handcart) was stored.
3	Mr and Mrs Crocker – elderly couple
4	Village Pound area which was organised by Canon Gildea as a pound for stray cattle in the early 1920s. There is a stone set into the wall with inscription.
5	Miss Biddlecombe
6	Mr Crocker (Builders Crockers and Critchell) who brought up his children by himself.
7	Weylands A large house owned by Mrs Ford-White, a widow, who lived there with her sister, Miss Sarah Rogers and her niece Ida Rogers. Both the Miss Rogers were school teachers and Sunday School teachers in Upwey. Ida was also the Guide Mistress.
8	Mr and Mrs Toms
9	Wesleyan Chapel with small living quarters at the rear where Mr and Mrs Hansford lived. They were the caretakers of the chapel.
10 and 11	Were not there then
12	Small house lived in by Mr and Mrs Loveless. Was later added to part of number 14
14	The original Poset Office. A large double fronted house. The Post Office later moved across the road to number 17 in the late 1910 to 20s and was run by Miss Corbin. In 1936, Miss Roberts lived there.
16	Long cottage, originally thatched with railings along the front which were removed during the war.
17	Post Office A large house with the Post Office and Sorting Office added to the side. Miss Corbin was the Post Mistress and she was helped by Miss Dunne who also lived in. Miss Corbin was going blind and would sit in the shop and recognise people by their voices. The shop was a dark room with dark polished wood counters with a lift-up panel and behind the counter was a cork-lined telephone booth. Miss Dunne would make the phone call for you for doctor visits etc. or would connect you to the exchange before you were allowed through the lift-up counter to use the phone.
18	Between 16 and 18 ws a short rough lane to the field behind Elwell. Also led to Batch Cottage and Little Hill. Mr Legg lived at number 18
19	Trevett Brothers Coal Merchants One brother lived there and the other lived behind number 18 in Batch Cottage. Beside the house at number 19 was a stable used to house the horse and cart. Mrs. Trevett, their mother, used to run a refreshment room, where twice a week, she would cook faggots and peas and 'furmity'. You would have to take your own dish if you bought any.
20	Orange Villa Mr and Mrs Hooper
22	No information
23	The Retreat Mr and Mrs Weedon
24	Two small cottages Mr <b>rown</b>
25	Mr and Mrs Hansford junior, son of the caretakers at the chapel. He was blind but made a trade of mending shoes which he did from the house.
26	Mr and Mrs Parker He worked at Westbrook Farm. On Saturday afternoons he would go to Dorchester in his Saturday clothes which were a tweed jacket, highly polished gaiters and boots, a trilby hat and smoked his pipe. These cottages were later empty for many years then joined into one cottage. Next door to them were two buildings , one of which was used as a lock-up shop, a fidh shop, run byMr and Mrs Maynard from Dorchester.

- The other building was a dark long barn used as a coal store for the Trevetts  
The barn was later used as a rifle range for the Home Guard during the War.
- 32 Mr and Mrs Loveless
- 34 The Times Stores A double-fronted shop selling groceries run by Mr and Mrs Barker. In a window was a large double-faced clock which hung from the ceiling.
- 36 A tall house used as room lets
- 38 Mr and Mrs Hargreaves and their children
- 39 The Butchers shop  
Mr Bowditch lived in the house at the front. Between 38 and 39 was a passage way which led to a shop at the back. Along the passage way would hang the meat carcasses and at Christmas, the turkeys etc. You would have to dodge these to get into the shop.
- 42 Mr and Mrs Downton He was the verger at the church
- 44 Mr and Mrs Hayward He worked on the railways
- 46 Miss Wilacombe
- 48 Mr Bowditch Numbers 46 and 48 were eventually made into one house.
- 50 Mr and Mrs Amor, her mother and stepfather
- 52 Sunny South Mrs Frances Christopher and two daughters Frances and Esme; Pat's mother's auntie and cousin.
- 54 Rose Cottage Mr and Mrs House He worked at Westbrook Farm.
- 56 Mr and Mrs Churchill
- 58 Mr and Mrs Crocker - retired  
Lilac Cottage A market garden run by Mr and Mrs Mackay and their daughter from Scotland.
- 66 Mr and Mrs Tom Fellowes Builder who had two sons and three daughters. Middle daughter was Pat Wills.
- 68 Mrs Palmer A widow who was sister to Mrs Dominey at number 76
- 70 Mr and Mrs Smith. He worked as a baker at Tretts Restaurant in Weymouth.
- 72 Mr and Mrs Fookes and their son. Mr Fookes worked on the railway.
- 74 Mr and Mrs Hutchins He unloaded ships on Weymouth Quay.
- 76 Mr and Mrs Dominey and two daughters He worked as a gardener at Westbrook Farm and at Westbrook House.
- 78 Mrs McTavish a widow
- 80 Mr and Mrs Goodchild and daughter
- 82 Mr and Mrs Valance He had a book repair business with a little workshop on Dorchester Road. He was a part time voluntary fireman and also ran a bed and breakfast.
- 84 Mr and Mrs Barnett (or Barrett) He was a retired poiceman.
- 86 Formally part of Meadowside market garden now – in 1936, owned by Miss Turner.
- 87 Formally a part of the Meadowside market garden owned by Mr and Mrs Warr run as a market garden, also as a florist and made wedding boquets  
At the end of Elwell street id Reading Field with an old building used as a reading room and a meeting place. Pat can remember a wedding party being held there when she was a child. The building was later used as a straw store.  
Pat Will's mother's side of the family were the Christophers who had lived in Elwell street since the 1890s.  
Her great grandparents has owned Christophers Strawberry garden and nursery at 86 – now Meadowside and when her grandparents retired they lived at number 66 built in1911.  
Her mother's parents took over the house and they had five children; two sons and three daughters.  
Pat was born in 1927.

## People left in Elwell Street in 1974 with connections going back to 1936-39

By 1974, Elwell was no longer a little village. There were so many new faces in the street and you never got to know the people so well.

The chapel was a private house and the rough land between the chapel and the Post Office had a bungalow and a house built on it.

There was a new house built next to Orange Villa. The lock-up garage was now a house. The stable of Trevett Coal Merchants was now a holiday home.

Number 16 was lived in by Winston Percy who owned the Mazda Garage on Dorchester road.

Number 32 was lived in by Commander Pentreath who was involved with the Falklands War. He was involved with the agreement between Argentina and Britain. There was excitement when people saw him on the television news.

Lilac Cottage was pulled down to make way for four modern houses in the 1980s.

House number	Occupants
3	Mrs Crocker – daughter in law of the previous people
17	Miss Dunne – now elderly and still running the Post Office
8	Mrs Toms – now elderly widow
38	Mrs Hargreaves
50	Mrs Kenyon – daughter of Mr and Mrs Amor and one-time mayor of Weymouth
52	Mrs Christopher, widow, Pat Will's aunty – see photograph
54	Mr and Mrs Cleverton – Mrs Cleverton was daughter of Mr and Mrs Crocker
66	Mr and Mrs G Wills – Pat's parents
82	Mr Valance – now elderly